

JUL 19 1949

July 19, 1949.

Mr. Gordon Allen,  
189 West 11 Avenue,  
Columbus, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Allen:

I have your postcard. The Union had available a room for the night of Aug. 1 only, but it should be easy to find accommodations for you further, either at the Union, via cancellations, or elsewhere.

Frankly, I don't see how it would be possible to plan, much less initiate, experiments on meningococci in several days. However, if you have some definite ideas in mind, and have collected the necessary strains, do bring them along.

In a brief visit, I had thought that we might accomplish a discussion of the present status of bacterial genetics, with special reference to virulence, and that if you were interested, you might go through an experiment or two with *E. coli* to gain some experience with our techniques. It would take at least a couple of months to get a substantial project under way, especially with an organism which we had not previously handled. We could discuss the possibility of pursuing seriously that kind of problem at a later date, at our meeting next month. This limited agenda may not meet with your expectations, but if I do not hear from you to the contrary, I shall expect to see you.

To help you plan your itinerary, I enclose a local RR timetable. I will be glad to meet your train if you write the necessary details.

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg.